Welcome to



Dear Delegates

First of all, we would like to welcome you to the twelfth edition of the Marymount School Model United Nations (MMUN XII). As your chair, it is an honor to accompany you during this learning process during the model, and we thank you for being part of this committee. We expect you to put your research, negotiation, argumentation, teamwork, and public speaking skills into practice in this committee, and we hope that this will be a learning space for you. Apart from having delegates with excellent academic qualifications, we want good human beings who respect different points of view and the opinions of others, working collaboratively, and putting the MMUN spirit into practice. As your chair, we hope that you will play an excellent role in this

Also, we would like to remind you that this guide is a base for your research, and hope that it will

carry out your own research, especially about your country's position. We are counting on you to arrive prepared for the debate so that it will go as smoothly as possible. Still, you can count on both of us for support, so if you have questions of any kind please do not hesitate to contact us.

Itzel Magdaleno and Juan Camilo Rey

The United Nations Disarmament and International Security Committee (DISEC) is in charge of dealing with problems relating to global changes, disarmament, and threats to peace that can alter the international community. Taking into account the different problems that DISEC is concerned with, this organization has the responsibility of inquiring about the challenges in international security management for human wellbeing and proposing solutions. Its principles are based on:

- Maintenance of International Security.
- Principles governing disarmament
- Regulation of armaments
- Promotion of cooperative arrangements
- Measures aimed at strengthening stability through lower levels of armaments.

It was created at the beginning of 1952, regarding resolution 502 of the General Assembly, becoming the first commission to search for solutions in weaponry aspects. In this way, the commission is sheltered under the Security Council's administration.

Research what role does your delegation play in this Commission

During the first special session of the General Assembly agenda centered on disarmament, a new Disarmament Commission was established as a subsidiary body of the Assembly made up of all

the Member States of the United Nations. Over the years, this committee had an evolution to carry out its work more efficiently.



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TOPIC

Inspection and evaluation biochemical weapon development restrictions

Biochemical Weapon: Weapons used to cause death or disease on a large scale, such as microorganisms like viruses, bacteria, or fungi. (World Health Organization, (2020).) Research the differences between chemical and biological weapons.

Biochemical: is the scientific study of the chemical process and substances.

Ebola: contagious virus of the family Filoviridae that causes hemorrhagic fever, gastrointestinal distress, or death. (WHO, (2021).)

Nerve Agents: a swelling on the skin containing watery matter. (Wordreference, (2021).)

causes a type of Mass destruction: a large number of a great deal referring to the act of destroying.

(Wordreference

(2021).)

Lassa: a viral virus that hemorrhagic fiber. (Wordreference, 2020)

Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW): an international organization organized by the Chemical Weapons Convention (adopted 1992, entered into force 1997) to execute and administer the terms of the international agreement. which forbids the use, stockpiling, or transference of chemical weapons by signatory states. Besides, works to eliminate chemical weapons stockpiles, to ensure the nonproliferation of existing stockpiles, to assist states in protecting themselves against chemical weapons attacks, and to promote international cooperation in the use of chemistry for peaceful purposes. (Britannic Encyclopedia, 2020)

Biological Weapons Convention: a convention that has been enforced since 1975, it is in charge of prohibiting the development, production, acquisition, and use of biological and toxin weapons. (United Nations, (2020).)

Disarmament: The fact of a country reducing the size of its armed forces or the number of weapons, especially nuclear weapons, that it has. Oxford Dictionary, (2020).)

Blister Agents: a chemical compound that causes skin, eyes, and mucosal problems, pain, and irritation. (Wordreference, (2021).)

Chemical Weapons Convention: an international treaty that maintains control in the illegal armament, production, and use. (Oxford Dictionary (2020).)



Historical Context

The history of the use of biochemical weapons dates back to the 14th century when in 1347 Mongol Forces catapulted plague-infested bodies into ships at the Black Sea port of Caffa (now Feodosiya in Ukraine). These embarkations carried the Black Death virus in their cargo to Italy, initiating an epidemic that would leave approximately 25 million dead. After four centuries, attacks with biochemical weapons were presented, in 1753 during Pontiac's Rebellion, British troops



besieged at Fort Pitt (now passed blankets Pittsburg) infected with the smallpox virus to the Indians, causing a devastating epidemic among

nvestigate the uses of chemical nd biological weapons during World War I.

Taking into account the effects of World War I due to biochemical weapons, it was decided to sign the Geneva Protocol in 1925, which prohibits the use of this type of weapons in armed conflicts. This agreement was signed by 108 nations in favor of its implementation.

One of the most important aspects of this treaty was the nonproliferation, manufacture, or stockpiling of biochemical weapons as stated in the resolution According United Nations(2010):

Recalling the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925,0F 1 as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions. (p.1)

Despite the deprivation of these weapons, neither their production nor their stockpiling was restricted.

Research if your delegation signed this agreement and the implications in its weaponry development



In 1963 after the overthrow of the imam monarch Muhammad al-Badr following a military coup in Yemen, Egypt carried out an intervention in favor of the new military government, which had been attacked by forces of the imam party. As an offensive military party, the Egyptian army launched a chemical attack based on nerve

agents and mustard. This attack generated worldwide controversy as it was a violation of international law.

These initial amateur munitions were augmented by a Soviet shipment

of new gas bombs in January 1964. Victims died 10 to 50 minutes after an attack, with blood pouring from their noses and mouths without any marks on the skin. Autopsies validated death from pulmonary edema caused by inhaling poison gas. Final studies concluded that mustard gas was probably the culprit, as it was approximately simple to manufacture and coordinated the victims' symptoms.

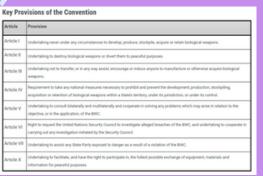


During the Cold War, many plans were developed to create biological weapons, such as the use of Ebola or smallpox in weaponry. With this in mind, in 1972 was decided to carry out the Biological Weapons Convention, in which the signatory nations undertook to submit annual reports through the use of forms showing data on laboratories, scientific centers, and defense plans against biological weapons.

What this agreement generated was a halt to the development of resulting in greater stability in international biological weapons, security, as mentioned by the United Nations. (2019). The Biological Weapons Convention (BWC) effectively prohibits the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling, and use of biological and toxin weapons. It was the first multilateral disarmament treaty banning an entire category of weapons of mass destruction (WMD).

The BWC is a key element in the international community's efforts to address WMD proliferation and it has established a strong norm against biological weapons. The Convention has reached almost universal membership with 183 States Parties and four Signatory States.

Research what were the implications of this agreement for your delegation





Go into detail with the Articles of **Biological Weapon Convention**

Other conflicts that have been affected by the use of biochemical weapons include the Iran-Iraq war and the Syrian Civil War. Investigate their history and other circumstances where this armament has been implemented.

How can your delegation help to stop the violence produced by biochemical weapons?



Current Sitatuion



Despite this, biological weapons and chemical weapons still pose a threat to international security. The biological weapons convention is in charge of the regulation, construction, acquisition, and transportation. It was the first multilateral treaty created in order to completely prohibit a specific type of weapons. This is key in order to have regulation and control of biochemical weapons in some delegations. The convention has established an agreement with 183 states' parties and four signatures (Egypt, Haiti, Somalia, and Syria).

The treaty specifies that state parties should cooperate and solve compliance concerns, as it allows them to present complaints if necessary in order to maintain peace and order. This theme is really concerning because biochemical weapons advance and contain germs that could cause disease and problems in the world. Minor developments may advance quickly under the right circumstances, and may reach the potential to cause mass destruction.

Nowadays, technology has advanced quickly and with massive velocity. Satellite communication has increased and it is easy for a delegation to have long-distance communication and they could create or win a conflict by the fact of interrupting or attempting to access the network. Important investigators from the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) share that in actuality there are 4 types of biochemical weapons that have been developed.

Relevant Actors



Biochemical weapons are a topic that involves many delegations. It may concern the international community because in past years this has caused destruction and harm, and in the future it may cause wars. Weapons are a way in which countries protect themselves but it is important to know that nuclear, chemical, and biochemical weapons are the most dangerous weapons on earth. Viruses, bacteria, fungi, or other toxins that are produced and released also cause disease and death in humans, animals, and plants.

Nowadays it is important to know that Albania didn't declare its possession of 16 metric tons of mustard agents until 2003, later the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) ordered its destruction in 2007.

The situation in China with biochemical weapons declared that it is in compliance with the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC). The United States declared that although China affirmed that, they still possess this armament, and China's activities have been extensive. The report on compliance with Arms Control Nonproliferation and Disarmament Agreements and Commitments indicate that China is still developing biological equipment that is not declared and may have another use or purpose. In 1997 China declared its possession of a program of biochemical weapons, OPCW made more than 400 investigations in 2016. Approximately, 350,000 chemical munitions were left in the Japanese delegation during the second World War II.

Cuba is a relevant delegation because it denies any research. Cuba has industrial biotechnologies that have advanced during the last 10

The Russian Federation, an important strategic ally, has mentioned many times its concern with biochemical weapons. Along with the United States, it has received an extension to complete the final destruction of its possessions. A 2016 report showed that Russia destroyed 92 percent of its stock. Finally, in 2017 The Organization for the Possession of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) announced the last destruction.

Research your country's development of biochemical weapons, and if it has ever implemented them during a conflict.



Principally, we want the committee to discuss new restrictions and actions to be taken, keeping in mind the use of chemical weapons in past years, such as in Syria's Civil War in 2016 or the Iraq- Iran War. Additionally, as the chair, we hope that the commission will evaluate the validity of the restrictions on biochemical weapons in the 21st century, taking into account the treaties of the Biological Weapons Convention and the Geneva Protocol, discussing what stipulations should be viable in actuality. Besides, we hope for a debate where effective strategies will be planned that favor the disarmament of biochemical weapons, taking into account all the precedents that humanity has experienced. The specific approaches will be decided by the delegates during the debate. They can use a motion to divide agenda but it is up to their own creativity to figure out how to capture Samantha Lewthwaite since we want to allow them to form the path that they consider best. It's important to note that, in order to decide how to approach this topic, further research other than this study guide is necessary.

During the committee, we encourage the delegates to make detailed directives that will allow the delegate of crisis to release updates about movements made by Lewthwaite, in order to aid the delegates with the investigation. However, the initial location will be revealed at the start of the debate.

If the committee is able to determine how influential and how powerful Lewthwaite's connections are, then figuring out strategies to counter this can be an easier process. So take this into account in order to find and capture her.

- What strategies could be considered to stop biochemical armament?
- What restrictions for biochemical weapons should be modified according to 21stcentury reality?
- What actions should the committee decide, taking into account the use of biochemical weapons in less than ten years?
- How do biochemical weapons affect international security and welfare?
 - WHO Biological Weapons https://www.who.int/health-topics/biological-weapons#tab=tab 1
 - UN News Work still remains on destruction of Syria chemical weapons https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/08/1097112
 - ICR Chemical and Biological Weapons https://www.icrc.org/en/war-and-law/weapons/chemical-biological-weapons
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TOPIC B

Militarization of Space and its long term implications

Militarization: to be equipped with military forces or and defenses (Wordreference, (2021).)

Aerospace: meaning that is related to space or the industry in charge of designing and building spacecraft.

(Wordreference, (2020).)

Satellite: a device launched into orbit around the earth, moon, or other planets. (Wordreference,

(2021).)

Spacecraft: vehicle used to travel in space. (Wordreference, (2021).)

Orbit: A curved path followed by a planet or an object as it moves around another planet, star, moon, etc.(Oxford Dictionary, (2021).)

Military Space Programs : A program in charge of conducting space operations, including missile warning, launch operations, satellite administration, space domain recognition, and satellite communications.(United States Space Force, (2019).)

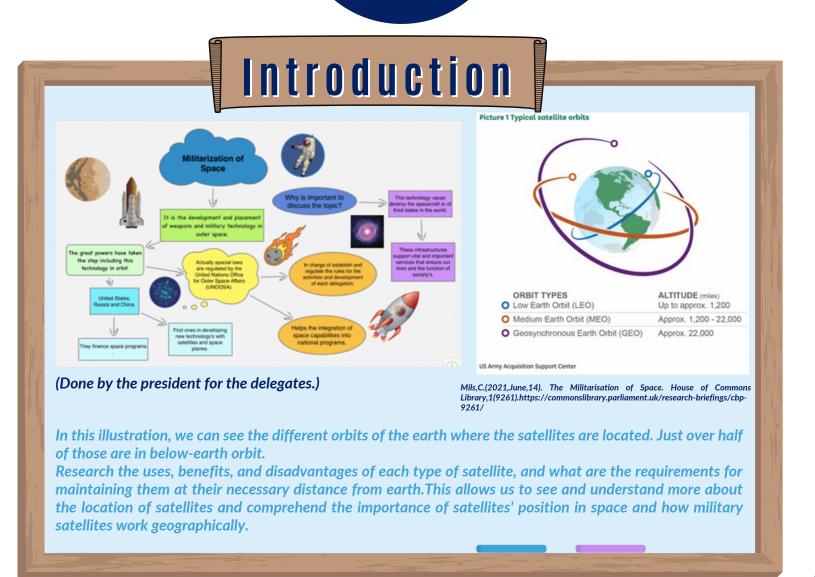
Anti-Satellite Weapon:
Weapons designed to destroy
or limit satellites for military
purposes, such as
undermining the command
and control centers of an
adversary's military. (Harvard
International Review,(2020).)

Missile: object or weapon propelled at a target, stone or bullet. (Oxford Dictionary, (2021).) Militarism: belief
that a country
should have great
military strength in
order to be powerful
(Oxford Dictionary
(2021).)

imaginary space without a physical location in which communication over computer networks takes place (Oxford Dictionary, (2021).)

Cyberspace:

Debris: pieces of wood, metal, or building materials that are left after something has been destroyed (Oxford Dictionary (2021).)



Historical Context

In 1946, the United States of America began developing satellite feasibility programs, seeking to expand its military power based on testing the efficiency of missile and rocket attacks. For that reason, Americans started Operation Paperclip, in which the U.S. military brought 130 German rocket scientists to White Sands, New Mexico, along with 100 V-2 rockets and various technical data from the German missile launch facilities at Peenemunde. Many designs of weapons were confiscated by the United States after winning the war. This is, because the Nazi's plans were intended for the use of rockets as a destructive



Operation Paperclip , Nazis Scientist developing a new satellite. Schumm,L.(2014,June,2).Wha Was Operation Paperclip?. History Channel. https://www.history.com/news/what-was-operationpaperclip

weapon in 1945, being of great inspiration for the creation of ballistic weapons in the United States. The plans for rockets and other U.S. military weaponry at the time were developed based on these Nazi scientists who worked for the United States to generate space, chemical, and biological weaponry against the Soviet Union.

In 1950, the U.S. government under President Harry Truman gave an endorsement for the creation of programs to develop long-range strategic missiles and short-range theater missiles, extending the range of its Redstone Missile beyond 322 kilometers. These programs presented major problems at the economic and practical level, and it was considered to discontinue them due to the implications they entailed. However, the Army Ballistic Missile Agency in Huntsville, (Alabama), insisted that the Army had the best means to carry out military space applications and to be able to take its power out of the Earth.

In 1957, the Soviet Union launched the first artificial satellite into space, Sputnik I, which had a diameter of 58 cm and weighed approximately 80 kilos. It took 98 minutes to orbit over the earth, obtaining basic information on density and temperature of the upper atmosphere whose data were transmitted to earth. One year later, the American satellite Explorer I is launched into space, projecting the government of the United States of America to the development of new aerospace advances.

Research what were the importance of Sputnik I and Explorer I in relation to Space Race

In 1959, the United States began the development of military space programs with the creation of the X-20 Dyna-Soar manned spacecraft, which had the mission of sabotaging enemy satellites. In 1963, a secret astronaut program was launched to prepare pilots for the "Manned Orbiting Laboratory," a substitution for a manned spy satellite plan that originated from the Apollo project. The missions of that plan was to "capture and recover space objects, change the orbital trajectory of enemy satellites, firing RMU projectiles to neutralize enemy satellites, and to destroy an enemy satellite". However, this program was abandoned in 1969 and modified by unmanned spacecraft to be used for intelligence activities.

Investigate what implications the development of interceptor and space intelligence aircraft has for the militarization of space.



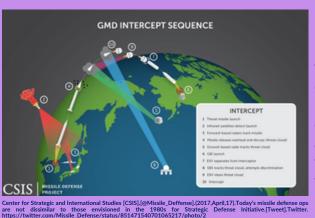
Scientists assembling prototypes of new rockets at Manned Orbiting Laboratory, Howell,E. (2017,March,04),Manned Orbiting Laboratory Declassified: Inside a US Military Space Station,Space.com

In 1977, the Soviet Union launched into space the Salyut-6 Station, which was the first space station to receive unmanned cargo spacecraft. This station was important for the militarization of space since it was used to carry out missions of photographic and radar reconnaissance and inspection of satellites of other countries.

In 1983, U.S. President Ronald Reagan announced to the media the Strategic Defense Initiative, which was based on the use of different space satellites to intercept and divert Soviet missiles to USSR satellites. These were based on a complex system of lasers that made possible the deflection of the rockets. This plan was not realized because of negotiations between both countries.

This plan was thoroughly developed for its time, which generated more tension between the Soviets and Americans and clarified the US intentions to militarize space. According to Editors of Encyclopedia Britannica: (2019)

The SDI was intended to defend the United States from attack from Soviet intercontinental ballistic missiles (ICBMs) by intercepting the missiles at various phases of their flight. For the interception, the SDI would require extremely advanced technological systems, yet to be researched and developed. Among the potential components of the defense system were both space- and earth-based laser battle stations, which, by a combination of methods, would direct their killing beams toward moving Soviet targets. Air-based missile platforms and ground-based missiles using other non-nuclear killing mechanisms would constitute the rear echelon of defense and would be concentrated around such major targets as U.S. ICBM silos. The sensors to detect attacks would be based on the ground, in the air, and in space and would use radar, optical, and infrared threat-detection systems.



In 1999, NASA launched an unmanned spacecraft program, these studies led to the development of the X-37 robotic aircraft. It is a reusable orbital vehicle (OTV), similar to a small space shuttle, designed to test new technologies in flight during its stay. It orbits back to the atmosphere. Its main task was to destroy enemy

space satellites. However, like the HTV hypersonic weapons program, the X-37 program was handed over to the Ministry of Defense.

The United States launched the secret Automated Navigation and Guidance Experiment in Near Space in 2005. As part of this program, developed independent mini-satellites capable of detecting and inspecting other objects in space.

In January of 2007, China executed an anti-satellite destruction test employing anti-satellite weapons (ASAT) that promoted the development of space as a war-field in the post-Cold War era. China had to develop asymmetric capabilities in space and cyberspace to respond to anticipated emergencies in the Taiwan Strait. This test produced a large amount of space debris, which was strongly criticized by the international community. These actions were intentional for pressing the United States to admit the vulnerability of its space system.

In November 2016 American military commanders affirmed that Russia and China had space weapons with the capability to take out satellite systems placed in orbit.

These statements generated tension in these three nations after reprising fragments of the Cold War. According to Perez (2020):

Specifically, Director of National Intelligence Dan Coats stated that "We believe that Russia and China perceive the need to counter any U.S. military advantage derived from commercial, military, and civilian space systems, and are increasingly considering attacks on space systems as part of their doctrine for future warfare." Consequently, the question arises as to what the United States is doing to counter this situation since it is the country with the most satellites in space, its economy is the most dependent on information society technologies, and therefore it has more to lose than the other contenders.

This highlights concerns American Nation and shows the risks of these actions by Russia and China, disrupting international security.

The year 2019 can be considered as one of the periods of more tension in the militarization of space since in March of that year the Republic of India conducted a test with anti-satellite weaponry called Shakti Mission which was to bring this weaponry into Earth orbit at 300 kilometers of altitude. However, Shambhu Hakki, spokesman for the Indian embassy in Washington announced that "India has no intention of entering into an arms race in outer space. We have always maintained that space must be used only for peaceful purposes,". On November 25, the Russian government launched the Soyuz-2.1v rocket called "Cosmos 25-42" The satellite intended to carry out surveillance missions of national satellites, as stated by the Ministry of Defense of that country. Additionally, the French Government established the development of its Space Command in order to position itself as a military space power.

Research what are Spacial Commands and the implications in militarization



In 2020, despite the pandemic, several nations continued to develop their space weaponry, as was the case of Iran, which launched into space its military satellite Nour, which was launched and reached 425 kilometers high. Zein Basravi, correspondent of the Qatari newspaper Aljazeera (2020), states that "As a military satellite,

what we're likely to see is this to be used specifically for intelligence gathering and secure communications for the navigation of forces on land and sea,"(p.1). This action generated tension between the Americans and the Iranians considering that a few months ago Trump unilaterally withdrew from an agreement that froze Iran's nuclear program and issued new demands for Tehran to curtail its ballistic missile development.

Has your delegation developed military space programs? If so, which have they been?

On January 30 of that year, it was confirmed that the Cosmos 2542 satellite synchronized its orbit with the USA-245 reconnaissance satellite of type KH-11 Block 4 operated by the NRO, which has been in space since 2013. This generated suspicions about the type of cargo that this one had and the implications of space espionage.

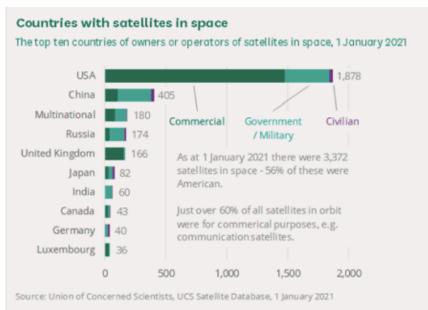
Current Situation



In actuality, Russia, the United States, and China finance predominant Spacial Programs with the purpose of obtaining satellites and different space crafts. It is important to remember that there is a treaty signed by the United Kingdom, United States, and the Soviet Union that regulates and limitates operations in space. This states that every country that plans on sending something to space will receive a sanction. Every satellite has the power to follow and observe but it can't make direct attacks or interrupt its operations.

What are the different treaties of space sovereignty and how the militarization of space influences them?

Furthermore, the French Government has begun to develop its military space program with the testing of the Aster X plan in 2021, which aims to position France as a military power in space. France also planned to develop laser anti-satellite weapons and strengthen surveillance capabilities in an area that it considers could convert a major arena for dispute among governments on Earth. Additionally, the development of this program was prompted by the fact that the Russian satellite Olymp-K had attempted to surround a French-Italian satellite in what France declared an act of espionage.



This graph shows the nations that have launched the most satellites into space, showing the use of these satellites for commercial, military, governmental, and civilian purposes. In some countries, such as China, Russia, India, and Germany, it can be seen that most of the spacecraft are for military use, which is alarming for the commission as it shows the continuous development of space plans for weapons purposes.

Mils, C.(2021, June, 14). The Militarisation of Space. House of Commons Library, 1(9261). https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9261/

Since 2007, The United Nations General Assembly has been promoting a project and possible treaty in which they establish the prohibition of space objects, but the United States of America rejected this proposal. It is important to take action on this topic because in 2021 France launched its first military satellite with the purpose of protecting themselves and defending their satellites. Currently, any type of approach from Russia or China will create an impact on the United States because the military and politicians have noticed that they are developing and working on systems with satellites against the forces of the United States.

In 2005, the United States launched a secret navigation program in which they tried to develop microsatellites with the ability of detecting long distant objects.

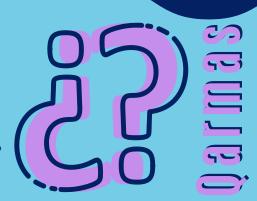
On the other hand, In 2017 Russian Space Forces worked on an operation in which they tried to generate orbital operations. They placed 3 satellites named Kosmos-2491, Kosmos-2499 and Kosmos-2504, the first one worked on orbital maneuvers, the second one deployed the first one but it didn't work. Finally they expected the three to make a set of complex orbits. This shows that in actuality, many countries continue developing and creating military technologies to operate in the future.

Research the role of your country in the creation of space technologies.



Above all, we expect the committee to concentrate on the problems existing and what would happen in the future with the possibility of including more equipment in space. Analyzing the situation and the massive destruction that can be caused, it is important to know that approximately 3,372 satellites out of 6,542 are activated. Additionally, as a chair, we expect delegates to debate and think about what would be better for the international community's welfare. Respecting all the rules, we hope everyone will behave and contribute to a beneficiary solution and project what is better for the world in relation to militarization in space. We want delegates to discuss and propose strategies to address the problem of the militarization of space, taking into account all the events that have taken place and the implications they have for the well-being of the international community. Additionally, as a chair, we hope that delegates will consider the concepts of space sovereignty and the use of weapons in them.

- Which strategies could be used to control the militarization of space?
- What are the long-term implications of militarizing space?
- Should space weapons be banned?
- What are the risks to international security posed by space weapons plans?
- Should space be used as a war ground?



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